

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE



NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact:

Mike Gowrylow

(360) 705-6603

Taxable Retail Sales Rise 5.5 Percent for Third Quarter 2004

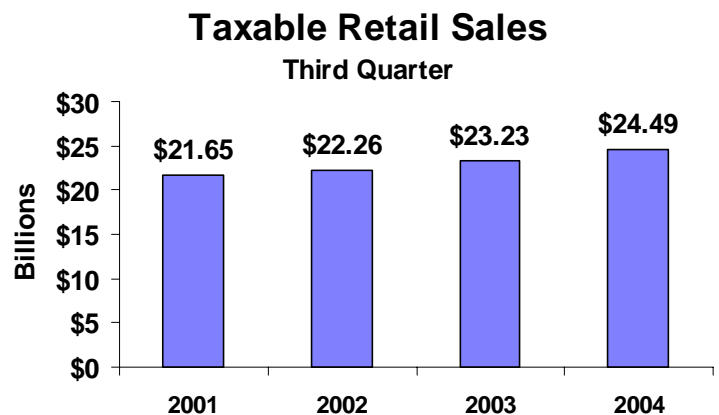
OLYMPIA, Wash., Jan. 10, 2005 — Taxable retail sales rose 5.5 percent during the third quarter of 2004 compared to the same period in 2003, according to the latest Quarterly Business Review published by the Washington State Department of Revenue.

Washington businesses reported \$24.49 billion in taxable retail sales from July through September, up from the \$23.23 billion reported for the third quarter of 2003.

Retail trade was up 5.0 percent, at \$12.80 billion compared to \$12.19 billion in 2003. Retail trade is a subset of all sales that tracks sales at retail outlets only and excludes such volatile sectors as contracting.

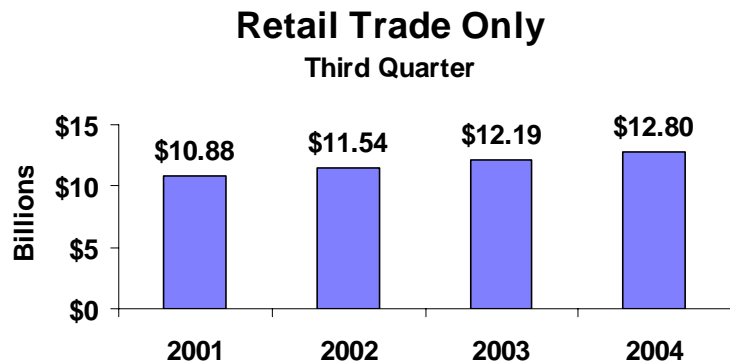
Construction generated the largest share of taxable retail sales at 18 percent, followed by auto sales at 9.9 percent and restaurant and bar sales at 7.8 percent.

Among the largest counties, King County recorded a 4.7 percent increase in overall taxable retail sales and a 3.8 percent increase in retail trade. Snohomish County posted a 5.5 percent gain overall and a 4.9 percent gain in retail trade.



Pierce County was up 5.1 percent and 5.9 percent, respectively. In Eastern Washington, Spokane County was up 5.4 percent overall and 2.9 percent in retail trade.

Among large cities, Seattle edged up 0.7 percent overall and rose 4.7 percent in retail trade. Everett increased 3.5 percent and 0.5 percent, respectively, while Tacoma was up 0.9 percent and 2.6 percent. In Eastern Washington, Spokane's sales increased 0.6 percent overall but were down 0.5 percent in retail trade.



Complete results for all counties and cities, including breakdowns of sales by industry sector, are available online at <http://dor.wa.gov>. Go to the quarterly business review area in the statistical reports section, http://dor.wa.gov/content/statistics/stats_qbr.aspx.

The Quarterly Business Review currently uses the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system to categorize industrial sectors. It will shift to a new North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) beginning with the first quarter 2005 report. The calendar year 2004 report will use both NAICS and SIC codes.

###

To inquire about the availability of this document in an alternate format for the visually impaired, please call (360) 705-6715. Teletype (TTY) users please call 1-800-451-7985.

TAXABLE RETAIL SALES BY COUNTY

	All Taxable Retail Sales*			Retail Trade Only**		
	3rd Quarter 03	3rd Quarter 04	Change	3rd Quarter 03	3rd Quarter 04	Change
Adams	\$40,147,611	\$45,632,093	13.7%	\$17,723,205	\$19,402,541	9.5%
Asotin	38,815,572	43,018,573	10.8%	25,126,629	26,323,250	4.8%
Benton	518,252,546	541,184,535	4.4%	301,585,734	311,731,797	3.4%
Chelan	290,385,606	323,786,419	11.5%	145,994,307	158,229,849	8.4%
Clallam	216,113,426	267,992,340	24.0%	114,497,749	123,562,084	7.9%
Clark	979,398,443	1,063,043,976	8.5%	490,090,897	529,828,153	8.1%
Columbia	6,657,796	8,944,944	34.4%	2,109,087	2,211,081	4.8%
Cowlitz	285,394,618	278,657,429	-2.4%	158,757,285	164,162,083	3.4%
Douglas	89,222,419	95,892,121	7.5%	51,876,806	55,780,930	7.5%
Ferry	9,958,245	9,901,376	-0.6%	3,751,013	3,510,965	-6.4%
Franklin	197,405,094	221,904,100	12.4%	88,522,499	98,924,137	11.8%
Garfield	4,426,346	4,075,719	-7.9%	1,859,811	2,062,574	10.9%
Grant	202,358,258	227,065,597	12.2%	100,877,472	107,676,912	6.7%
Grays Harbor	191,228,082	196,799,402	2.9%	104,884,867	108,402,073	3.4%
Island	166,102,035	183,176,767	10.3%	82,301,298	86,889,224	5.6%
Jefferson	85,086,192	100,633,218	18.3%	37,663,291	38,708,089	2.8%
King	9,231,413,297	9,666,256,418	4.7%	4,548,988,244	4,723,535,820	3.8%
Kitsap	740,370,298	778,584,598	5.2%	455,783,137	474,351,277	4.1%
Kittitas	129,803,814	154,052,293	18.7%	57,741,677	63,825,155	10.5%
Klickitat	39,976,817	38,561,113	-3.5%	9,290,234	10,138,986	9.1%
Lewis	228,451,076	236,268,681	3.4%	117,582,251	125,113,552	6.4%
Lincoln	19,229,313	22,874,328	19.0%	6,825,049	6,755,144	-1.0%
Mason	110,287,539	120,648,282	9.4%	53,292,786	60,526,258	13.6%
Okanagan	92,266,268	98,856,843	7.1%	50,164,835	54,522,330	8.7%
Pacific	48,160,258	50,201,599	4.2%	22,115,239	23,090,481	4.4%
Pend Oreille	19,990,590	19,586,597	-2.0%	7,395,774	7,687,773	3.9%
Pierce	2,500,898,798	2,629,012,130	5.1%	1,406,249,731	1,489,542,838	5.9%
San Juan	101,645,700	103,597,022	1.9%	31,674,807	33,905,597	7.0%
Skagit	536,073,623	532,178,998	-0.7%	313,689,126	331,900,686	5.8%
Skamania	21,448,982	20,739,992	-3.3%	4,624,154	4,794,266	3.7%
Snohomish	2,120,171,929	2,237,343,342	5.5%	1,217,593,666	1,277,363,769	4.9%
Spokane	1,554,573,129	1,637,779,946	5.4%	888,641,617	914,620,938	2.9%
Stevens	69,889,060	75,724,524	8.3%	34,539,425	41,047,181	18.8%
Thurston	816,969,553	863,538,579	5.7%	455,856,942	472,969,201	3.8%
Wahkiakum	4,918,696	5,258,055	6.9%	1,557,458	1,651,759	6.1%
Walla Walla	145,678,113	147,678,548	1.4%	66,937,031	73,793,590	10.2%
Whatcom	644,994,111	697,144,552	8.1%	352,962,567	385,278,635	9.2%
Whitman	102,229,890	113,483,246	11.0%	38,174,143	41,628,024	9.0%
Yakima	625,722,805	633,910,937	1.3%	323,235,332	341,196,793	5.6%
TOTALS	\$23,226,115,948	\$24,494,989,232	5.5%	\$12,192,537,175	\$12,796,645,795	5.0%

*All taxable retail sales includes retailing, services, contracting (construction), manufacturing, transportation, communications, utilities, wholesaling, finance, insurance, real estate and others. Sales taxes from contracting can be highly volatile.

**Retail Trade includes taxable sales of building materials and hardware, general merchandise, food, auto dealers, apparel, furnishings, and miscellaneous retail stores. This figure better represents consumer purchases.

TAXABLE RETAIL SALES BY SELECTED CITIES

	All Taxable Retail Sales*			Retail Trade Only**		
	3rd Quarter 03	3rd Quarter 04	Change	3rd Quarter 03	3rd Quarter 04	Change
Aberdeen	90,460,426	87,424,202	-3.4%	60,138,686	60,821,026	1.1%
Auburn	344,996,693	414,163,478	20.0%	197,672,167	213,981,047	8.3%
Bellevue	1,006,511,899	1,017,721,935	1.1%	603,856,016	605,474,523	0.3%
Bellingham	413,455,844	444,259,403	7.5%	250,713,724	275,244,266	9.8%
Bremerton	165,682,275	172,039,859	3.8%	106,072,431	107,728,514	1.6%
Camas	31,912,709	34,099,841	6.9%	10,504,652	11,490,034	9.4%
Centralia	60,076,822	59,075,987	-1.7%	35,031,738	36,174,038	3.3%
Chehalis	82,965,870	86,117,753	3.8%	55,307,859	56,859,975	2.8%
Colville	36,230,588	37,853,702	4.5%	23,571,668	26,285,097	11.5%
Des Moines	39,921,742	50,116,653	25.5%	21,488,723	21,372,871	-0.5%
Edmonds	123,776,200	122,817,694	-0.8%	76,243,090	73,399,644	-3.7%
Ellensburg	73,931,559	85,464,700	15.6%	41,159,206	44,063,799	7.1%
Everett	499,660,677	517,268,331	3.5%	287,612,041	289,139,341	0.5%
Federal Way	295,968,576	294,701,852	-0.4%	191,880,377	187,723,487	-2.2%
Fife	159,921,319	187,564,602	17.3%	105,966,463	134,843,901	27.3%
Issaquah	247,049,552	258,188,769	4.5%	156,550,673	164,345,489	5.0%
Kelso	56,524,799	51,727,011	-8.5%	31,252,215	33,333,073	6.7%
Kennewick	298,699,043	306,600,459	2.6%	197,070,467	207,152,679	5.1%
Kent	499,059,735	583,206,834	16.9%	221,656,010	230,155,546	3.8%
Kirkland	328,400,939	349,974,084	6.6%	203,480,500	214,145,218	5.2%
Lacey	132,615,510	154,729,678	16.7%	85,537,535	92,298,056	7.9%
Longview	158,034,041	159,617,954	1.0%	99,884,060	105,320,355	5.4%
Lynnwood	434,966,481	446,695,896	2.7%	311,722,265	324,453,781	4.1%
Marysville	99,132,998	108,626,159	9.6%	55,610,038	56,759,517	2.1%
Mercer Island	53,883,561	57,769,702	7.2%	12,262,071	13,137,759	7.1%
Moses Lake	94,051,981	99,947,324	6.3%	56,470,656	58,655,999	3.9%
Mount Vernon	128,859,801	134,465,895	4.4%	80,531,658	83,177,885	3.3%
Mountlake Terrace	33,881,966	36,096,117	6.5%	15,584,149	16,119,365	3.4%
Oak Harbor	70,993,098	73,003,155	2.8%	47,044,993	46,490,205	-1.2%
Olympia	409,288,107	415,039,667	1.4%	262,041,594	257,776,100	-1.6%
Omak	28,335,870	28,295,526	-0.1%	19,864,148	22,116,919	11.3%
Pasco	170,904,432	198,509,607	16.2%	80,846,517	91,641,647	13.4%
Port Angeles	72,399,255	72,258,549	-0.2%	38,948,259	39,130,865	0.5%
Port Townsend	37,090,576	41,622,048	12.2%	17,573,633	18,948,604	7.8%
Pullman	59,870,681	73,395,390	22.6%	26,858,677	26,911,007	0.2%
Puyallup	350,694,310	366,987,481	4.6%	256,811,189	270,600,844	5.4%
Redmond	406,870,277	439,178,675	7.9%	186,894,690	206,626,610	10.6%
Renton	440,545,954	463,323,287	5.2%	243,978,235	268,370,593	10.0%
Richland	158,527,695	155,774,701	-1.7%	82,142,906	83,984,086	2.2%
SeaTac	194,258,821	186,685,181	-3.9%	31,121,215	33,647,173	8.1%
Seattle	3,096,740,327	3,117,314,289	0.7%	1,325,252,005	1,387,968,602	4.7%
Shelton	44,721,440	46,735,529	4.5%	27,198,101	29,885,307	9.9%
Spokane	815,947,347	820,741,935	0.6%	450,850,083	448,621,095	-0.5%
Sunnyside	51,805,545	54,704,233	5.6%	33,793,252	34,225,577	1.3%
Tacoma	931,416,185	939,433,362	0.9%	510,345,671	523,594,840	2.6%
Tukwila	429,479,493	438,713,269	2.1%	285,415,693	296,335,208	3.8%
Vancouver	503,982,178	557,122,306	10.5%	278,007,098	297,221,157	6.9%
Walla Walla	101,882,433	104,781,639	2.8%	54,049,852	55,408,673	2.5%
Wenatchee	152,935,831	174,249,407	13.9%	88,796,363	101,581,861	14.4%
Yakima	311,430,586	329,673,752	5.9%	177,963,981	182,424,151	2.5%

*All taxable retail sales includes retailing, services, contracting (construction), manufacturing, transportation, communications, utilities, wholesaling, finance, insurance, real estate and others. Sales taxes from contracting can be highly volatile.

**Retail Trade includes taxable sales of building materials and hardware, general merchandise, food, auto dealers, apparel, furnishings, and miscellaneous retail stores. This figure better represents consumer purchases.

###